(b) if so, the Central assistance released to the State Government for launching 'Food for Work' programme;

(c) the progress of work as on date; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. On the specific request of the State Government of Orissa, a 'Food for Work' programme was started in the 14 cyclone affected districts of Orissa, in the first instance, to the tune of Rs. 105 crore. The Centre agreed to contribute Rs. 78.74 crore against the State's contribution of Rs. 26.26 crore. The first instalment of Central assistance amounting to Rs. 39.37 crore was released during March, 2000. In addition, Department of Public Distribution has agreed to provide foodgrains in the form of rice at the BPL price through Food Corporation of India (FCI). The subsidy on rice provided to the State Government of Orissa under this programme is to be met by Department of Public distribution.

(c) and (d) the State Government of Orissa has informed that against the allotment of 31500 M.T. of rice to the cyclone affected districts, 135.76 M.T. of rice has been distributed at the rate of Rs. 2 kg. per manday partly in lie of wages. The State Government has taken up 10398 projects and the total expenditure incurred upto 8.5.2000 comes to Rs. 226.76 lakh.

Special schemes for Orissa districts

4861. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have implemented any special scheme or the development of the rural areas in Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput (KBK) districts in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(c) the fund earmarked for implementing those special schemes in Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) to (d) In order to focus on high priority schemes which would deal with the basic problems of the undivided districts of Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi, the Government of Orissa has prepared the Revised Long Term action Plan (1998-99 to 2006-07) which comprises Central Plan and Centrally

Sponsored Schemes in various sectors, namely, agriculture, horticulture, watershed development, afforestation, irrigation, health, drinking water, emergency feeding, welfare of SCs/STs and rural connectivity.

In addition to the normal flow of funds under Central Plan and Centrally Sponsored Schemes, various steps have been taken to provide some additional funding to these districts. In 1998-99 and 1999-2000, Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 37 crore was provided each year in the Annual Plan of Orissa for these districts, In 1998-99, additional amount of Rs. 7 crore was allocated for the Emergency Feeding Programme and Rs. 2 crore for Mobile Health Units under Basic Minimum Services. In 1999-2000, an additional amount of Rs. 8.60 crore was allocated for the Emergency Feeding Programme, Rs. 2 crore for Mobile Units and Rs. 10 crore for Drinking Water Supply under Basic Minimum Services.

Indian Fabric in World Market

4862. SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian fabric can constitute a major part of exports as per German experts; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to participate in Frankfurt trade fair as well as other foreign venues to open market further for textiles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) There is scope for increasing the share of fabrics in our overall textile exports.

(b) Various Textile Export Promotion Councils are already participating in the Heimtextil fair at frankfurt as well as other International Trade Fairs.

Technology Upgradation Centre in Kerala

4863. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the need to modernize the handloom industry in the country to enable them to produce improved varieties of handloom product; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to extend enough financial assistance to set up one technology upgradation centre in each district of Kerala?